

Message Text

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ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 EA-07 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 AF-06 EUR-12 NEA-10

ACDA-05 OMB-01 /098 W

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O R 242152Z OCT 75

FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3222

USMISSION USUN IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY SEOUL

C O N F I D E N T I A L BUENOS AIRES 7085

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UNGA, KS, AR, US

SUBJECT: KOREA AT 30TH UNGA; ARGENTINE POSITION

REF: STATE 250774

1. I MADE NEW DEMARCHE TO FOREIGN MINISTER ARAUZ CASTEX TODAY (OCTOBER 24) ON KOREAN ISSUE, USING TALKING POINTS PROVIDED IN REFTEL.

2. FOREIGN MINISTER EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR SECRETARY KISSINGER'S LETTER AND GREETINGS TO HIM WHICH HE SAID HE WOULD ANSWER SHORTLY. HE INDICATED ARGENTINE CONVICTION THAT U. S. IS SEARCHING FOR JUST AND FAIR SOLUTION WHICH WILL ASSURE PEACE IN KOREAN PENINSULA. ARGENTINE OBJECTIVES ARE SIMILAR TO OURS AND ARGENTINA WOULD LIKE TO BE OF HELP. IT IS FOR THAT REASON THAT ARGENTINA IS ABSTAINING WHILE MOST NON-ALIGNED COUNTRIES ARE VOTING IN FAVOR OF ALGERIAN RESOLUTION. ABSTENTION, HOWEVER, IS AS FAR AS ARGENTINA CAN GO ON TWO RESOLUTIONS CURRENTLY UNDER CONSIDERATION--AT LEAST AS THEY ARE PRESENTLY STRUCTURED. FOR PRACTICAL POLITICAL REASONS, ARGENTINA CANNOT VOTE AGAINST ALGERIAN RESOLUTION IN FACE OF SUPPORT THAT RESOLUTION

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ENJOYS FROM NON-ALIGNED COUNTRIES WHICH HAVE OFTEN GIVEN THEIR

SUPPPORT TO ARGENTINA ON OTHER CRUCIAL ISSUES (READ, MALVINAS). TO VOTE

AGAINST ALGERIAN RESOLUTION WOULD BE TO RISK LOSING SUCH SUPPORT FOR FUTURE. ARGENTINA HOPES, THEREFORE, THAT SOME MIDDLE GROUND MAY BE FOUND. FOREIGN MINISTER REFERRED TO THIRD RESOLUTION (ASEAN DRAFT) WHICH NOW APPEARED TO BE IN FORMULATION STAGE

AND ASKED IF EMBASSY HAD ANY INFORMATION ON IT. HE EXPRESSED HOPE THAT IT MIGHT OFFER WAY OUT.

3. FOREIGN MINISTER WAS NOT CATEGORIC THAT GOA COULD NOT VOTE IN FAVOR OF FRIENDLY RESOLUTION. HE NOTED THAT IN SECRETARY KISSINGER'S LETTER TO HIM, REFERENCE WAS MADE TO CALLING CONFERENCE OF ALL PARTIES CONCERNED WITH ARMISTICE, INCLUDING TWO KOREAS, U. S. AND PRC. IT WAS HIS UNDERSTANDING, HOWEVER, THAT RESOLUTION DID NOT SPECIFICALLY NAME PARTICIPANTS, THUS LEAVING IT OPEN FOR POSSIBLE MISINTERPRETATION. WHILE FOREIGN MINISTER THUS SEEMED TO BE HOLDING OPEN DOOR TO CHANGING GOA POSITION IF THIS MATTER OF WHAT RESOLUTION ACTUALLY STATES COULD BE CLEARED UP, I HAD DISTINCT IMPRESSION THAT HE WAS PLAYING FOR TIME AND THAT IN FINAL ANALYSIS, GOA WILL INSIST ON ABSTAINING ON FRIENDLY RESOLUTION AS WELL AS ALGERIAN ONE.

4. I ARGUED STRONGLY AGAINST CONTINUED ARGENTINE ABSTENTION, URGING ESPECIALLY THAT THEY VOTE AGAINST ALGERIAN RESOLUTION. FOREIGN MINISTER LISTENED, BUT DID NOT BUDGE. HE DID, HOWEVER, SAY HE WOULD SEND CABLE OR PHONE TO AMB ORTIZ ROZAS IN UN IN-STRUCTURING LATTER TO HAVE EXCHANGE FURTHER VIEWS WITH AMB BENNETT WITH SPECIAL VIEW TO SEEING WHETHER OR NOT ASEAN DRAFT WAS PROSPERING AND OFFERED ANY GROUNDS FOR COMPROMISE.

5. AS AN ASIDE, FOREIGN MINISTER NOTED THAT GOA WAS STICKING TO ITS ABSTENTION ON ALGERIAN RESOLUTION DESPITE ENERGETIC NORTH KOREAN EFFORTS TO PERSUADE THEM TO VOTE IN FAVOR.

6. THROUGH OTHER SOURCES, IT HAS COME TO MY ATTENTION THAT NORTH KOREAN EMBASSY HERE HAS TRIED TO GET EX-INTERIOR MINISTER BENITEZ, WHO IS CLOSE FRIEND OF ARAUZ CASTEX (BENITEZ APPOINTED ARAUZ CASTEX TO SUPREME COURT), TO INTERCEDE WITH LATTER IN EFFORT TO PERSUADE HIM VOTE THEIR WAY. WHETHER VENITEZ
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APPROACHED ARAUZ CASTEX ON SUBJECT I CANNOT BE CERTAIN; IF HE DID, HE WAS NOT SUCCESSFUL, FOR POSITION REMAINS UNCHANGED.

7. COMMENT: ARAUZ CASTEX IS NEW ON JOB AND STILL FEELING HIS WAY ALONG. I HAVE STRONG IMPRESSION (WHICH AGREES WITH THAT OF AMBASSADOR VAZQUEZ IN WASHINGTON) THAT ORTIZ ROZAS' RECOMMENDATIONS

TO HIM ARE KEY FACTOR IN ARGENTINE POSITION.

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